

Westfield City Council, February 28, 2011

The Westfield City Council met in regular session Monday February 28, 2011 at the Westfield City Hall. Members present were John Dippel, Steve Hoover, Bob Horkay, Ken Kingshill, Bob Smith, Tom Smith and Rob Stokes. Also present were Mayor Andy Cook, Deputy Mayor Bruce Hauk, Clerk-Treasurer Cindy Gossard and Legal Counsel Brian Zaiger.

Mayor Cook recognized the Boy Scouts in attendance this evening.

President Tom Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of January 10, 2011

Ken Kingshill made the motion to approve the January 10, 2011 City Council minutes as amended. Steve Hoover seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Approval of February 14, 2011

Bob Smith made the motion to approve the February 14, 2011 City Council minutes as presented. Rob Stokes seconded. Motion carried.

Guests:

Westfield resident Sharon Williams had concerns with land flooding in particular at 161st Street and Union Street.

Claims:

John Dippel made the motion to approve the Claim Docket Sheet as presented. Ken Kingshill seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Resolution 11-04: Grand Park Land Acquisition

Introduction – February 14, 2011

Adoption Consideration – February 28, 2011

City Legal Counsel Brian Zaiger described the area being acquired. He explained Resolution 11-04 as a public statement by the City Council to put the nine parcels in the City's ownership.

Rob Stokes described the process with City Council and Committee involvement. This does not include any long term build outs. He expressed his support.

Steve Hoover feels very comfortable with the benefits and potential of this project and how it far out ways any risks. This is the first step in making the Sports Campus a reality.

President Smith expressed his support on the purchase of this land. He went on to state that this did not have to come before the Council in a public meeting. The Mayor and Council felt that this was the best way to show the taxpayers a transparent process.

Ken Kingshill made the motion to approve Resolution 11-04 as presented. Bob Horkay seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Ordinance 10-22: Façade Improvement Grant Program

First Reading – December 27, 2010

Second Reading – January 10, 2011

Discussion – February 14, 2011

Adoption Consideration – February 28, 2011

Representing Economic Development Department, Deanne Ludwig described the Ordinance as an enhancement of the Downtown Westfield area. She has made the recommended changes and is looking for approval this evening.

Westfield resident Ron Thomas spoke in opposition of this Ordinance. He is particularly opposed to the food and beverage tax being used for this project. He thinks that there are more appropriate uses for these revenues.

Rob Stokes stated his support of this Ordinance.

John Dippel also stated his support on these improvements and that this will come forward approval of this Ordinance. He feels that this is the desire of downtown merchants and an appropriate use.

Ken Kingshill stated that a viable downtown is a benefit to all of the City of Westfield.

Steve Hoover respectfully disagreed with Mr. Thomas even though his comments were valid. The bigger picture is that this is a benefit for the entire City of Westfield.

There were concerns of this Ordinance allowing for an appeal process.

President would like to add a statement that the decision of the committee is final.

Ken Kingshill made the motion to approve Ordinance 10-22 as amended. Bob Smith seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Ordinance 11-04: Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Sign Standards

Introduction – December 13, 2010

APC Public Hearing – January 4, 2011

APC Recommendation – January 18, 2011

Discussion – February 14, 2011

Adoption Consideration – February 28, 2011

Planner Kevin Todd described the changes as mainly clean-up on some language. John Dippel asked for clarification on the noncommercial institutions. Steve Hoover explained that the committee was addressing the commercial flags that were being flown with a State or US flag. This was not to target residents.

After some discussion Bob Horkay made the motion to approve Ordinance 11-04 with clarifications. Rob Stokes seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Ordinance 10-23: Golf Cart Ordinance

Introduction – September 13, 2010

Public Comment – October 11, 2010

Update from Committee – November 8, 2010

Discussion – February 28, 2011

Adoption Consideration – February 28, 2011

Ken Kingshill made the motion to approve Ordinance 10-23 as presented. Steve Hoover seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Council Comments:

Rob Stokes asked if there were any concerns with the recent rains and flooding.

Director of Public Works Kurt Wanninger explained that most concerns were minor with dealing with debris causing minor flooding. The worse flooding was South Union/161st/156th.

President Smith was pleased with the Council driving of three of the four agenda items. With a lot of participation of the Council and input from the community these were able to be approved this evening.

Bob Smith complimented the Westfield Street Department on snow, ice and flooding over the past few weeks.

Mayor Comments:

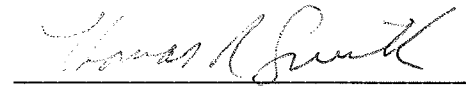
Mayor Cook also complimented the Public Works Department as well as the Public Safety Department on all of their response the past few weeks.

He also said that there will be an exciting announcement from the Public Safety Department later this week.

Rob Stokes made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Hoover seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:52P.M.


Clerk-Treasurer


President